

BRIEF NOTES ON THE LAND AND FRESH-WATER SHELLS OF MERCER COUNTY, ILL.

BY WILLIAM A. MARSH.

Sub-genus *Planorbula*, Haldeman.101.—*Segmentina armigera*, Say.

Shell varied in color, from very dark horn color to almost white, spire regular, slightly concave, suture well impressed, whorls four, longer than wide, carinated above, aperture oblique, labrum usually of a darker color on the edge. Within the aperture are five teeth, two on the pillar lip, one near the anterior lip, one on the side of the labrum, and two on the upper portion of the outer lip. This interesting shell has a range from Maine to Colorado. It is rather common here about our small ponds, being usually found associated with *P. exacutus* and *P. parvus*. It may be found adhering to sticks, bark and pieces of pine boards where the water is very shallow.

ANCYLUS Geoffrey, 1767.

102.—*Ancylus rivularis*, Say.

Shell pale yellow, opaque conic, depressed; apex obtuse, nearer to and leaning towards one side and one end; aperture oval, rather narrower at one end, entire. This shell is very abundant along the margin of the Mississippi River; found adhering to the limestone rock in the river, also on limbs of trees, dead leaves and old valves of Uniones. I have one valve of a *Unio ellipsis* in my cabinet that had 25 of the *Ancylus* on it.

103.—*Ancylus parallelus*, Haldeman.

Shell pale, thin, fragile, lengthened, narrow, apex rather short, sharp, conspicuous, with two-fifths of the shell posterior to it. Inhabits Pope Creek, in this county; has never been found elsewhere. When found at all it occurs very abundantly, adhering to sticks, stones and dried leaves. I have found it attached to live specimens of *Pleurocera subulare*.

104.—*Ancylus tardus*, Say.

Shell conic, depressed, apex behind the middle, obtuse, rounded, inclining backward, line from the apex to the posterior tip rectilinear; line from the apex to the anterior tip arcuated; aperture oval.

I found this shell in a small slough near Edwards Creek, in Green Township, adhering to flat limestone rocks. I have never found it in any other locality. It is probably very rare here.

GENERAL NOTES.

ON HELIX (ARIONTA) KELLETI FBS.—Twenty years ago, Dr. J. G. Cooper, writing of the west coast helices, mentioned the finding of *Arionta Kelletii* Fbs., upon the seaward side of Point Loma, at the entrance of San Diego bay. He remarked upon the great number of dead shells and the scarcity of the living, from which it was inferred that they were dying out. The same state of affairs exists to day. The steep hillside is thickly strewn with dead shells of the form of *Arionta Kelletii*, now generally known as *A. Stearnsiana*, while living specimens are hard to find. The dead shells are in all stages, from fresh and bright to chalky and broken, showing that a comparatively small number of individuals are living at one time, yet enough survive to keep the race intact.—E. W. ROPER.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR A SYSTEMATIC KNOWLEDGE OF THE AQUATIC SHELLS OF TASMANIA, by W. F. Petterd. In this valuable paper Mr. Petterd has revised the fresh-water shells of Tasmania, giving especial attention to the minute Paludinoid forms, which in Tasmania as everywhere have been very imperfectly understood. Most of them belong to the genus *Potamopyrgus* of Stimpson, a group including also all of the New Zealand non-marine Rissoids. The new subgenus *Beddomeia* (name preoccupied by Nevill, Handl. Moll. Ind. Mus. i, p. 127) is proposed for *Ammicula lumcestonensis* Johnson, and other species, and *Brazieria* for the *Ampullaria tasmanica* Tenison-Woods. A number of new species are described and figured as well as the radulae of various genera. The importance of work of this sort can hardly be over-estimated at the present stage of Malacology.—H. A. P.

ON CERTAIN PARASITES, COMMENSALS AND DOMICILIARES IN THE PEARL OYSTER, by R. E. C. Stearns. (Smithsonian Report, 1886, pt. 1, p. 339.) The author of this paper discusses in characteristically graceful style the interactions between parasites, domiciliares and